

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/531,046

Examiner

Rodney B. White

Applicant(s)

DE VROE, KOEN

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Interview on 05/10/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 16-30, renumbered 1-15.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John H. Mion (#18,879) on May 10, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

16. (currently amended): Mechanism for simultaneously turning up and stretching out an extension part (12, 112) relative to a reference part (1,101), comprising

at least one first ~~"essentially fixed"~~, linearly extending ~~means, composed of a~~ telescopic sliding profile element (10,110), having a first profile part rigidly interconnected with said reference part and ~~another~~ a second profile part (A) pivotally interconnected with said extension part via a first swivel point (S,S'), and

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at least one hinging second, linearly extending ~~means, composed of a~~ telescopic sliding profile element, having a first profile part pivotally connected to a second swivel point (Z, Z'), on said reference part, and ~~another~~ a second profile part (B) rigidly interconnected with said extension part, and pivotally interconnected with said ~~other~~ second profile part of said first essentially fixed, linearly extending ~~means~~ profile element, via said first swivel point,

wherein the first linearly ~~modifier "essentially fixed" defines that the modified~~ extending profile element ~~means moves in~~ is capable of only minor ~~sliding and pivoting~~ and translational movements, which are smaller than those of said at least one hinging second linearly extending profile element ~~means~~, to provide smooth operation of said mechanism.

17. (currently amended): Mechanism according to claim 16, wherein said first profile parts and said ~~other~~ second profile parts of said at least one first essentially fixed sliding profile element and said at least one hinging second sliding profile element, respectively, are interconnected with each other and with said reference part so that said hinging second sliding profile element hinges in a plane parallel to sliding movements of said first essentially fixed sliding profile element and said hinging second sliding profile element.

18. (currently amended): Mechanism according to claim 16, comprising two sets of first essentially fixed telescopic sliding profile elements and two sets of hinging

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second telescopic sliding profile elements, positioned symmetrically with respect to said reference part and/or said turning up and stretching out extension part.

19. (currently amended): Mechanism according to claim 16, wherein said ~~at least one other~~ second profile part of said at least one hinging second sliding profile element acts as support for said extension part.

20. (currently amended): Mechanism according to claim 16, wherein said first profile part of said at least one first ~~essentially fixed~~ sliding profile element is interconnected to said reference part via a pantograph framework which modifies the direction of said first ~~essentially fixed~~ sliding profile element in function of the hinging of said hinging second sliding profile element.

21. (currently amended): Mechanism according to claim 20, wherein said pantograph framework comprises:

a swivel point connection between said first profile part of said first ~~essentially fixed~~ sliding profile element and said reference part,

a swivel point connection between said first profile part of said hinging second sliding profile element and a pantograph framework main part,

a swivel point connection between said first profile part of said hinging second sliding profile element and said reference part,

a lever connection between said first profile part of said first ~~essentially fixed~~ sliding profile element and said pantograph framework main part, via swivel points, and
a lever connection between said pantograph framework main part and said reference part.

22. (previously presented): Mechanism according to claim 16, wherein said sliding profile elements slide on ball bearing elements.

23. (previously presented): Recliner chair construction comprising a footrest which simultaneously turns up and stretches out relative to said chair or a chair support part comprising a mechanism according to claim 16, in which said extension part of said mechanisms constitutes said turning up and stretching out footrest.

24. (currently amended): Recliner chair construction comprising a footrest (12,112) which simultaneously turns up and stretches out relative to said chair (1,101), comprising

at least one first ~~"essentially fixed"~~, linearly extending ~~means, composed of a~~ telescopic sliding profile element (10,110), having a first profile part rigidly interconnected with said chair or a chair support part and ~~another~~ a second profile part (A) pivotally interconnected with said footrest via a first swivel point (S,S'), and

at least one hinging, second linearly extending ~~means, composed of a~~ telescopic sliding profile element, having a first profile part pivotally connected to a second swivel

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point (Z,Z'), on the chair, and ~~another~~ a second profile part rigidly interconnected with said footrest and pivotally interconnected with said ~~other~~ second profile part of said first ~~essentially fixed~~, linearly extending ~~means~~ profile element, via said first swivel point, wherein the first linearly ~~modifier "essentially fixed"~~ ~~defines that the modified~~ extending profile element ~~means~~ moves in ~~is capable of~~ only minor sliding and pivoting and translation movements, which are smaller than those of said at least one hinging second linearly extending profile element ~~means~~, to provide smooth operation of said mechanism.

25. (currently amended): Chair construction according to claim 24, wherein said first ~~profiles~~ profile parts and said ~~other profiles~~ second profile parts of said at least one first ~~essentially fixed~~ sliding profile element and said at least one hinging second sliding profile element are interconnected with each other and with the chair so that said hinging second sliding profile element hinges in a plane parallel to sliding movements of said first ~~essentially fixed~~ sliding profile element and said hinging second sliding profile element.

26. (currently amended): Chair construction according to claim 24, comprising two sets of first ~~essentially fixed~~ telescopic sliding profile elements and two sets of hinging second telescopic sliding profile elements, positioned symmetrically with respect to the chair and/or the turning up and stretching out footrest.

27. (currently amended): Chair construction according to claim 24, wherein said ~~at least one other~~ second profile part of said at least one hinging second sliding profile element acts as support for said footrest.

28. (currently amended): Chair construction according to claim 24, wherein said first profile part of said at least one ~~first essentially fixed~~ sliding profile element is interconnected to said chair via a pantograph framework which modifies the direction of said ~~first essentially fixed~~ sliding profile element in function of said hinging of the hinging second sliding profile element.

29. (currently amended): Chair construction according to claim 28, wherein said pantograph framework comprises:

a swivel point connection between said first profile part of the ~~first essentially fixed~~ sliding profile element and a chair frame,

a swivel point connection between said first profile part of the hinging second sliding profile and a pantograph framework main part ,

said second swivel point connection between said first profile part of the hinging second sliding profile element and said footrest,

a lever connection between said first profile part of said ~~first essentially fixed~~ sliding profile element and said pantograph framework main part, via further swivel points, and

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a lever connection between said pantograph framework main part and the chair frame.

30. (previously presented): Chair construction to claim 16, wherein said sliding profile elements slide on ball bearing elements.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: While the prior art of record, such as Renault, Satoh, and Hagiike, teaches telescopic profile elements, they do not teach at least one first, linearly extending, telescopic sliding profile element, having a first profile part rigidly interconnected with said reference part and a second profile part pivotally interconnected with said extension part via a first swivel point, and at least one hinging second, linearly extending telescopic sliding profile element, having a first profile part pivotally connected to a second swivel point, on said reference part, and a second profile part rigidly interconnected with said extension part, and pivotally interconnected with said second profile part of said first, linearly extending profile element, via said first swivel point.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

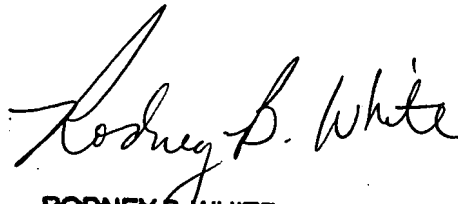
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rodney B. White whose telephone number is (571) 272-6863. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Dunn can be reached on (571) 272-6670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Rodney B. White,
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3636
May 10, 2007



RODNEY B. WHITE
PRIMARY EXAMINER